

TAFT INTIMATES  
HE WILL FAVOR  
ALIEN MEASURE

Signifies Attitude on Limitation of Immigration at Hearing in White House.

ILLITERACY TEST FOES  
MAKE THEIR LAST FIGHT

Friends of Foreigners Who Want to Come to Country Charge Interests Back Proposal.

The Burnett-Dillingham immigration bill, which provides an illiteracy test for persons coming into the United States, will be signed by President Taft unless he finds in the arguments made before the bill in the East Room of the White House today are much stronger than any of those made in Congress. President Taft warned the delegation of more than 100 representatives of the foreign population in the United States that he was disposed to sign the measure.

From 10 o'clock this morning until after the President's usual lunch hour, representatives of German, Scandinavian, Jew, and Italian populations made appeals to the President to withhold his approval of the illiteracy test. The reasons ranged from the eugenic effect of the bill to a charge that special interests were seeking its passage.

Last Stand of Foes. The opposition to the bill, which has made itself felt ever since the measure was first drafted in tentative form in 1911, was focused against it today, in the last stand of the enemies of the measure against its final enactment into law.

Congressman Curley of Massachusetts, who is a member of the House, and the crowd, including some of the most prominent members of the various nationalities in the United States, crowded the East Room of the White House, and the hearing was transferred from the President's study to the East Room of the White House, a more commodious hall.

Chief Justice Olsen, of the Illinois supreme court, spoke for the illiteracy test. He said that the illiteracy test would operate to bar from this country many honest, hard-working, and law-abiding people. He said that the illiteracy test would be a barrier to the progress of the country.

He Favors Bill. Vice President Katzenbach, of the United Order of American Mechanics of New Jersey, spoke in favor of the bill. He cited the experience of other countries in passing laws making it more difficult for aliens to enter.

He said that he hoped at the time, labor and money that had been spent in the preparation of the measure would not be lost for lack of the President's signature.

The investigation of conditions among aliens was incomplete prior to the passage of the measure, according to Mr. F. L. Leonard, of the University of Pennsylvania. His appeal was addressed especially to the protection of Germans who wish to come to this country.

Dr. Theodore Sutor, of New York, returned to the point made by Judge Olsen and said that he thought the labor of all the world should be invited to this country, as it is necessary for the development of the vast natural resources of the United States.

Morrison Favors Bill. Frank Morrison, of the American Federation of Labor, spoke urgently in favor of the bill. He declared that the illiteracy test was the best weapon that high-class American labor could have devised to save itself from ruinous competition. He asserted that most of the foreigners who come to this country and who are spoken of as farmers actually go into the coal and iron mines, there to work at wages that tend to cripple the whole labor wage plan from the viewpoint of labor.

He pointed out that American products are protected from foreign competition, but that the man who makes these products has heretofore had no protection and has been forced to hold his own as best he could against the influx of cheap foreign labor.

R. F. Duckworth, representing the Farmers Educational and Co-operative Society, Dr. F. L. Baker, of New York; Dr. T. W. Sullivan, of New York; and Mrs. Julia Roth, of Toledo, an officer of the National Council of the Daughters of the American Revolution, were also present.

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DEMOCRATS IN  
BITTER FIGHT TO  
RULE IN SENATE

Progressives Determined to Oust Reactionaries From Places of Power.

MARTIN AND SIMMONS  
MARKED FOR SLAUGHTER

Reorganization of Committees Is Planned in Manner to End Seniority Rule.

By JOHN SNURE. Raising the slogan, "The hand of Aldrich must not be allowed to rest on the Democratic side of the Senate," the progressive Democratic Senators have renewed their effort to force such reorganization of the upper house as will strip the conservatives and reactionaries of authority.

For a few weeks there has been an armistice in this struggle. The counsels of those who insisted there should be harmony among the Democratic Senators, lest Democratic control be jeopardized, seemed likely to prevail. Now, the armistice is off and the war has begun again in more deadly earnestness than ever.

Seek to Oust Old Leaders. The plan now is not simply to organize the committees so they will have a progressive trend, but to go out after the scalps of two of the conservative chieftains, Senator Martin of Virginia, Democratic leader, and Senator Simmons of North Carolina, chairman of the Finance Committee. Conferences are being held among the progressive Democrats daily in pursuance of this plan.

These conferences take the shape of informal gatherings in the cloakrooms and in various Senate offices. Wherever two progressive Democrats assemble they take up the subject. If the plan of the progressive Democrats goes through, the leader of the Senate Democrats next session is likely to be one of three men, Senator Hoke Smith of Georgia, Senator W. Kern of Indiana. However, other progressive Democrats are being considered for the place, and the availability of various men is being studied.

Instead of Senator Simmons, for chairman of the Finance Committee, Senator John Sharp Williams will be the probable selection, say the progressive Democrats.

To Shake Off Aldrichism. A plan is to be followed which will distribute the positions on committees equitably among the Democrats of the Senate. One man, in theory at least, is to have no more committee power than another.

Not long ago it was given out, chiefly from conservative Democrats, that Woodrow Wilson had sat down hard on the progressive Democrats in the Senate. It was reported that Wilson feared it would be a disaster to the Democrats to have a reorganization that would shake them out of the Senate.

It is not clear, but it is known that a number of the progressive leaders among the Senate Democrats have sympathy with the notion that harmony must be preserved at the expense of making the new organization genuinely liberal, progressive or radical, as one may choose to denominate it.

The progressive maintain that it was through the bi-partisan influence of Aldrich that a number of the old-time Democrats in the Senate were pushed to the front committees. They say they are going to shake off the last vestige of Aldrichism.

Committees in Five Classes. The plan of the progressive Democrats, as it is roughly outlined, is to elect a chairman, vice chairman, and secretary of the Committee on Committees. They are to choose, subject to caucus approval, six others, making a committee of nine. The Committee on Committees is to be composed of five members.

(Continued on Seventh Page.)

BEACH SWEARS  
STRANGER CUT  
WIFE'S THROAT

Millionaire, on Stand, Sticks to His Story of Mysterious Assault.

COOL AND COLLECTED  
THROUGHOUT QUESTIONING

Courtroom Is Packed to Capacity as Clubman Describes Attack at Home.

AIKEN, S. C., Feb. 6.—Holding to the story of a mysterious man who struck down his wife and slashed her throat, Frederick O. Beach, New York millionaire, today personally presented his defense to the jury which is trying him for the alleged assault.

Beach was the first witness called by the defense today. He was apparently cool and collected and answered questions of Attorney Byrnes slowly and deliberately.

Court Is Delayed. Court was delayed in opening today, and it was not until nearly 10 o'clock that Attorney Henderson, for the defense, called Beach to the stand. He and Mrs. Beach had been on hand nearly half an hour. The defendant wore a new dark green suit today, and took the oath with composure.

The courtroom was literally packed to capacity. Scores stood for an hour or more in the halls waiting admittance. Beach gave his age as fifty-seven, and said he resided at Aiken, S. C., at his home, 200 West 10th street, New York. Going over the incidents on the night of February 23, the witness said he, Mrs. Beach, and Miss Marion Hollins, who was visiting them, were alone at home that night. Miss Hollins, he testified, retired about 9 o'clock. Soon afterward, while he and his wife were in the sitting room, he heard a newspaper, they heard a scream. Beach explained that they paid no attention to it, thinking possibly that it was a negroes' quarrel. Then there came a second scream. This did not give the matter much thought.

Mrs. Beach Left House. A few minutes later Mrs. Beach, the husband related, got up to put her dogs out of the house. Followed by two animals, she stepped out in the yard, closing the door behind her.

"Not more than a minute and three-quarters to two minutes later," said the witness, "I heard her scream. I jumped up and ran out the front door to the steps. I saw Mrs. Beach standing at a corner of the porch. A dark figure darted between us and ran out the front door. I saw the figure with my eyes. I implored her to tell me what had happened and she cried: 'Oh, he's done something dreadful to me.'"

"I carried her into the house; rushed upstairs, got my revolver, came down and ran out toward the Aiken Club. When I got back to the house after Mrs. Beach described how a moment later he hurried out of the house, met Dr. Wyman and his son, escorted them back into the house, and then ran out and over to the Aiken Club, where he telephoned for Dr. Hall.

Blames Corporation Counsel. Corporation Counsel E. H. Thomas was specifically referred to by Mrs. Henderson and was accused of having retarded in more ways than one the prosecution of the case.

As soon as she had answered guilty to the charge of razing the sycamore without a permit, Mrs. Henderson without further hesitancy began to explain to the court her reasons for wanting to be vindicated.

She pointed in this city and throughout the country as a selfish woman," she declared. "On the contrary I did a public service. I cut down a rotten tree which jeopardized the life and limbs of pedestrians. I did something that the local government should have done."

Judge Pugh explained that it was not within his jurisdiction to try Mrs. Henderson on the question of her right to cut down the tree on account of it being dead and dangerous. He said that he was trying her for cutting down the sycamore without a permit from the proper authorities. Whether it was dead, dying or alive, the court explained, did not enter into the case.

MRS. HENDERSON  
PLEADS GUILTY;  
FINDS CHAMPION

Society Leader Escapes Fine on Appearance in Police Court.

SPECIMENS OF TREE  
SHOWN AS EVIDENCE

Judge Pugh Attacks District Officials for Causing "Second Hearing" of Case.

Decrying what he termed the unfairness of making Mrs. John B. Henderson, wife of former Senator Henderson, and wealthy owner of the famous "Henderson Castle," stand two trials within a week for cutting down a tree without a permit, Judge James H. Pugh, in the District branch of the Police Court, today criticized by inference the authorities responsible for the society woman's second appearance in court and refused to fine her for the offense. Mrs. Henderson's personal bond was taken.

The wealthy defendant pleaded "guilty" to the charge.

Part of Tree in Court. Balliffs and other court employees were kept busy during the trial of the case keeping back persons in the court room who sought souvenirs of the tree, a great part of which was brought into the court room to exhibit in an attempt to prove the veracity of Mrs. Henderson, who has declared all along that the tree was dead.

Branches and roots of the sycamore, the cutting of which has caused the "woodman" country-wide notoriety, were taken to the court room and placed in the courtroom. The tree was cut down and littered most of the furniture within the courtroom.

"It seems unfair to bring you here a second time for this offense," said the court. "When this incident was heard several days ago I took into consideration that the two employees who were tried and convicted of cutting down this tree without a permit were merely this defendant's instruments. I fined them accordingly \$25 each."

She Paid Two Fines. "I know that Mrs. Henderson paid that fine. Surely \$25 is enough pay for a tree which if not carefully dead was surely not in the best of health," said the court. "Take this lady's personal bonds."

Mrs. Henderson seemed to be very pleased with the court's decision, but was very anxious that she be vindicated of what she termed "selfishness" for cutting down the tree. She declared that she has been "persecuted" by certain District officials in connection with the tree incident.

Conflicting reports about the seriousness of the operation were followed by the conflict as to the condition of the patient. It was stated at the Burlington that the conqueror of the North Pole was in good health, but this was denied from other sources, which said his condition is grave.

The condition of Rear Admiral Robert E. Peary, who was operated on at his apartment in the Burlington by Dr. James F. Mitchell, is causing anxiety to friends of the family. These intimate friends of Admiral Peary assert that the operation, which was performed yesterday, was for appendicitis. Mrs. Peary, in a statement today, denies that it was for appendicitis, but declined to state what the nature of the operation was.

At the office of the operating surgeon this afternoon an evasive statement was made. Dr. Mitchell himself has made no statement as to the nature of the operation.

## Society Leader in Court Today



MRS. JOHN B. HENDERSON. Photo by G. V. Beck.

FRIENDS ALARMED  
BY PEARY'S ILLNESS  
Reported Explorer Was Operated Upon for Appendicitis, But His Wife Denies This.

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BULGARIANS DRIVE  
45,000 TO RETREAT  
Seize Four Towns as Turkish Forces Flee in Great Disorder.

SOFIA, Feb. 6.—The Bulgarians today occupied the villages of Meresta, Bulair, Charkueh, and Kavak, and the entire Turkish army in the peninsula, 6,000 men, was said to be retreating in great disorder toward the Marmara coast, where there are Ottoman fortifications.

A statement was given out that reports from the front today said that the Bulgarian operations in the peninsula of Gallipoli were succeeding even beyond the hopes of General Suvoy and other leaders.

Albanians Advance. CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 6.—A dispatch received here today said that 30,000 Albanians were advancing on the town of Uskub, which has been held by the Servians since shortly after the beginning of the war. Uskub is 100 miles from Salonica.

The Constantinople correspondent of the London Standard was authority for the story that the Turkish army in Monastir, which never had been precisely accounted for since the signing of the armistice agreement, was still there and carrying on an active and successful campaign in which the town of Koritza was captured.

Parcel Post Cars Coming on Monday. Two of five automobiles will be delivered Monday. If they meet with the approval of Postmaster General Hitchcock and Postmaster Merritt they will be immediately placed in service on the parcel post routes.

Postmaster General Hitchcock is interested in their design and efficiency, because it is probable that these cars will be used as a model for all parcel post machines through the United States. In accordance with strict instructions from the Postmaster General, they will be painted a brilliant red.

JOHNSON IN FINAL  
BATTLE TO SADDLE  
OLD DEBT ON DISTRICT

District Chairman Renews Fight on Expenditures and Insists That Residents of Washington Bear Expense of Interest on Bonded Indebtedness and Sinking Fund.

WANTS BATHING BEACH TO BE  
PAID FROM REVENUES OF DISTRICT

Further wrangling over the half and half principle occurred in the House today when consideration of the District appropriation bill was resumed, and Congressman Ben Johnson offered the expected but perfunctory amendment saddling upon the District the entire payment for interest and sinking fund on the funded debt.

The House two days ago decreed that the Federal Government should not pay its 50 per cent of the \$975,000 appropriated for the interest. Mr. Johnson's amendment today, action upon which was postponed, was the last step in putting entire responsibility upon the District as far as the House is concerned.

OPEN AIR SYSTEM  
MAY BE EXTENDED

Health Department Reports Beneficial Results in Those Already Formed. In accordance with recommendations of Health Officer W. C. Woodward, and Dr. William M. Davidson, Superintendent of Schools, the system of open-air schools in the District probably will be extended in view of the beneficial results shown to have been obtained by pupils of the "fresh air classes" at the Blake and Stevens schools.

For several months Dr. Arthur L. Murray, of the Health Department, has kept a record of the weight, height, and general health conditions of the pupils in the open-air schools. For purposes of comparison a similar record was kept of the conditions of pupils in one of the ordinary grades, where the windows are kept closed, the result being decidedly in favor of the fresh air treatment.

The first examination of pupils of the fresh air class of the Stevens school was made November 7 and 8. A second examination was made January 2, which showed a gain in weight among all but two of the pupils. These two, although not gaining, did not lose. The average gain in weight per pupil was 14 pounds of the fresh air class of the Blake School were examined November 4 and 5, and again January 2 and 3. The children in the open-air school in which the windows were closed gained 2.13 pounds in the same length of time.

In his report of his examinations, made public today, Dr. Murray says: "The children of the open-air school in which the windows were closed gained 2.13 pounds in the same length of time. In his report of his examinations, made public today, Dr. Murray says: 'The faces of the children appear fuller; several who at the first examination exhibited symptoms of anemia now appear normal and, taken as a whole, their countenance reflects more cheerfulness and well-being than when I first saw them. I have been informed also by the teachers that the children have advanced much more rapidly than the average pupils.'"

Convention of Tailors Coming to Washington. The International Tailors' Association, meeting today in convention at Philadelphia, is to hold the next annual convention in Washington. This decision was reached because of the location of the city and the fact that many Washington tailors are taking leadership in the organization. A large delegation of the local tailors attended the convention, and several obtained places of honor on the directorate and official board of the association.

Claims for \$71,000 Are Filed Against Mexico. Claims for \$71,000 filed by Americans living in Mexico and by the Mexican government, and asking that the United States pay the amount, were filed today in the Senate by Senator Smith of Arizona. The claims were referred by the Senate to the Mexican government as a national demand, on recommendation of the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Senator Smith protested that there was no chance of collection from the Mexican government, and asked that the United States pay the amount and then proceed to collect from Mexico for itself. Senator Root declared they have "enunciated the doctrine of American national responsibility."

SENATE. Senate met at noon. War and Navy Committee held a hearing on the eight-hour bill affecting women workers in the District. HOUSE. The House met at noon. Consideration of the District bill was resumed. The Labor Committee held a hearing on the eight-hour bill affecting women workers in the District.